

Missouri Department of Conservation 2008 Regional Logger Awards

Ozark Region

Danny Chaney of Birch Tree, MO, and Larry Young of Winona, MO have been selected as co-winners of the Ozark Regional Logger Award for 2008. Danny and Larry have both done excellent work on forest products harvests on both public and private lands in and around Shannon County.



From left to right: Danny Chaney, Lawrence (Larry) Young, and Clint Dalbom

Larry was instrumental in the success of the restoration and development of an oak-pine woodland project on the Rocky Creek Conservation Area. His careful style of logging, in heavily over-stocked stands of pine and mixed oak poles, left the woodland with a minimal amount of residual damage. He was also motivated to contract the slashing work as he worked through some of the even age management stands and he completed several non-commercial contracts in the woodland project area as well. Larry's work contributed significantly to the achievement of this project.

Danny's quality work was also a major factor in the success of the harvest operations around the conservation flagship of the Ozarks, the Twin Pines Conservation Education Center. The Twin Pines sale was small by most standards, but monumental in importance to the department. The stands harvested by Danny represent different silviculture prescriptions that will be used as interpretive areas for an educational hiking trail, as well as for programs presented by the Twin Pines Center. Few other parcels of state land will receive greater scrutiny than this area. Danny understood this responsibility and accepted the job knowing that the Department was looking for *'the perfect logging job'* and he succeeded.

Southwest Region

Jim Nelson has been operating a logging and sawmill business out of Oldfield, MO for over three decades. He and his son Brian were some of the first loggers in the state to voluntarily attend the Professional Timber Harvesters Training and have made it a point to stay current on all requirements of the certification.



From left to right: Jim Nelson and MDC's Tim Stanton

Jim is constantly looking for new markets so he can effectively utilize all the wood that needs to come out of a managed forest. He has worked within the bounds of timber sales administered by Department of Conservation foresters for decades. He puts in water bars and other tools necessary for best management practices.

Jim and his crew cause minimal damage in the crowns of residual trees during the felling process, and have very little basal damage to residual trees. He has trained each skidder operator (if he is not skidding) to look for unwanted species or poor quality specimens as his pivot trees or any tree necessary to sacrifice during the logging operation.

Jim requires safety be observed at all points along the operation. Proper safety equipment is provided to all crew members.

Jim is constantly aware of a landowners needs (and often their fears) when having a timber sale on their land. Jim is very patient and will go out of his way to make sure the landowner is satisfied with his work and does not go away from the experience with a bitter feeling toward loggers or the harvesting process. Jim rightfully guards his reputation as a logger, and has even turned down jobs because he felt the landowner was not going to be happy with the result even though they thought they wanted to conduct a sale despite what Jim explained as a process. He also informs landowners that they can (and should) call the Conservation Department if they are not comfortable with what he is telling them.

Foresters also reap the benefit of Jim's willingness to spend time and effort to make logging a profession. He patiently takes time to explain things from a logger's perspective to each forester. Jim is always willing to give of his time to answer questions or help the forester in any way he can.

Southeast Region

The Southwest Region Logger Award goes to Joe & Greg Brinkley of Brinkley Logging. They are trustworthy, dependable, flexible, show integrity and intuitively know and do the right thing. Joe and Greg Brinkley care

about the job they do. Joe and Greg have cut numerous state land and private land sales throughout the Southeast Region. They have worked for at least eleven Department of Conservation foresters over the last 30+ years. They understand that the logging job they do is their signature on the landscape.

The Brinkley's have cut several sales that no other crews would cut. Some of the sales were questionable from an economic standpoint. Some sales had more rotten trees than solid trees. Some sales have been in swamps where logs were lost due to floods. And some sales they took on "couldn't be done". They not only did it but did it well.

When conditions get too wet, they move to another area or to another sale. You can rely on them to do the "right thing" whether they are supervised or not. They knew what BMP's were before BMP's had a name.

At the end of the day, you will not find a better quality logging job than what the father/ son logging crew of Joe and Greg Brinkley produce. Many novice MDC Foresters were quite fortunate to have the opportunity to learn and watch some real craftsmen like the Brinkley's log. They care about the job they do. They care about their reputation. They care about the forest resources that they manage.

St. Louis Region

Shannon Jarvis was awarded the St, Louis Regional Logger Award for 2008. Shannon is a fourth generation logger. He began logging in 1995 after graduation from college.



From left to right: Cathy deJong and Shannon Jarvis

Shannon conducts timber sales on both public and private property. According to Mike Moses of the U.S. Forest Service, Shannon practices sustainable forestry by only harvesting timber specified in the contract and causes very minimal damage to the residual stand. He skids out all cut trees and utilizes the materials brought to the landing. Shannon is very conscientious of implementing Missouri's guidelines for watershed protection.

Shannon insists his employees utilize directional felling techniques when harvesting timber. Additionally, he stresses personal safety by requiring personal protective equipment, such as chaps, hard hat, and hearing protection. Shannon has been the “Game of Logging” statewide champion in the Professional Category.

Crader Distributing Company, headquartered in Marble Hill, Missouri, the exclusive distributor of STIHL Outdoor Power Equipment in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Southern Illinois, sponsored the 2008 Logger Award program. STIHL has donated to each Regional Logger Award recipient a Protective Kit valued at \$479.

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To contact one of these professional loggers or another professional logger in your area, please click on the following link:

[Missouri Forest Products Association's Trained Logger List](#)